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5. ([] - JMM) Called Chairman Lucien Nedzi, Intelligence Subcommittee of House Armed Services, to make him aware of Senator Stuart Symington's speech in the Senate this morning raising a number of questions about the recent White House announcement concerning the intelligence community. I particularly emphasized to Mr. Nedzi that the White House announcement involved no drastic changes in existing practices, was designed primarily to promote efficient and better coordination within the community, and to give the DCI authority to deal with the community budget. I noted that the National Security Council Intelligence Committee chaired by Dr. Kissinger was a requirements committee charged with establishing national priorities for intelligence collection, rather than with running the CIA.

Mr. Nedzi suggested it might be useful if we put together a summary of the specific changes resulting from the President's announcement, perhaps in the form of parallel columns noting the differences between the old and new practices within the community. I said I thought this a constructive suggestion and we would see what we could do, including perhaps notes on the significance of these changes.

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6. ([] - JMM) Ed Braswell, Chief Counsel, Senate Armed Services Committee, called to say he had a copy of the Symington speech being delivered on the floor, and summarized the contents. I said we would send right over for it. Mr. Braswell asked for any press material we had on the subject of the White House announcement, which we promptly sent over.

Later in the day, I talked again with Mr. Braswell and said if the Chairman thought it useful for the Director to appear before the Subcommittee in order to explain to Senator Symington and all the others at one sitting his understanding of the implications of the President's announcement, the Director would be willing to do so. I also called Mr. Braswell's attention to the wording of the announcement regarding the establishment of a National Security Council Intelligence Committee. I noted that this Committee was concerned with requirements for, and evaluation of, intelligence collection from the standpoint of the consumers, and was in no way responsible for the running of the CIA or other intelligence agencies as such. I said this point had apparently caused some confusion in the minds of Senator Symington and others.

Mr. Braswell said he wanted the legal basis for the changes in the intelligence community. He questioned whether they might violate the Executive Reorganization Act, and whether they were consistent with the National Security Act. I said we would see what we could do.

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